

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 SP-02 INR-05 RSC-01 MMS-01

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R 021056Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8463

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LIMDIS

FOR AID ADMINISTRATOR PARKER FROM AMBASSADOR DEAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CB

SUBJ: AID RIF

1. I CAN CERTAINLY UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS YOU FACE IN MANAGING AID'S REDUCTION IN FORCE. I WOULD BE REMISS, HOWEVER, IF I DID NOT EXPRESS TO YOU MY CONCERN OVER ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT ON OUR CRITICAL EFFORTS HERE TO SUPPORT THE KHMER REPUBLIC AND MAINTAIN ITS ECONOMY. THE TINY HANDFUL OF AID PEOPLE WE HAVE IN PHNOM PENH ARE PRESSED TO THE WALL IN MANAGING THE LARGE AND COMPLEX PROGRAM, AND UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO ROOM FOR SLACK.

2. MY CONCERN IS THAT BECAUSE OF THE RIF WE FACE THE PROSPECT OF SEVERAL OF THE AID STAFF HERE, INCLUDING SOME OF THE BEST, BEING TERMINATED EVEN THOUGH THEIR JOBS, WHICH ARE VITAL, MUST CONTINUE TO BE FILLED. SINCE SEVERAL OF THE AID STAFF HERE HAVE WHAT I UNDERSTAND ARE LIMITED APPOINTMENTS, AND OTHERS DO NOT HAVE GREAT SENIORITY, I GATHER THIS IS A VERY REAL POSSIBILITY. IT WOULD BE STILL MORE DIFFICULT IF WE HAD TO FACE THE PROSPECT OF NO REPLACEMENTS FOR PERSONNEL WHO WERE TERMINATED, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE JOBS IN CAMBODIA WERE NEVER EASY TO FILL IN THE FIRST PLACE.

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3. I SEEK YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND ASSURANCE THAT EVERY EFFORT

WILL BE MADE TO HAVE THE CAMBODIA PROGRAM AS LITTLE AFFECTED
BY THE RIF AS POSSIBLE. I PARTICULARLY ASK ASSURANCES THAT,
IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO TERMINATE AID PEOPLE IN PHNOM
PEHN THEIR SERVICES NOT BE TERMINATED PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL
OF REPLACEMENTS WHO MEASURE UP TO THE STANDARDS WE REQUIRE.
THE AID STAFF IN PHNOM PENH HAS MEASURED UP TO VERY HIGH
STANDARDS INDEED. I TRUST IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO KEEP IT
THAT WAY AND THAT THE MOMENTUM OF THE PROGRAM WILL NOT BE
LOST FOR LACK OF SUFFICIENT CONTINUITY IN PERSONNEL.
DECONTROL 12/15/75
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PHNOM15950
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740348-0757
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741268/aaaacfuw.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AID RIF
TAGS: EAID, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005